

Learning Not Burning  
Firewise Prevention Program 2006

Lesson Plan for Grades K-3

**OBJECTIVE:** Students will understand that trash pollutes our land, air and water. By recycling trash, our environment will be cleaner thus creating a healthier ecosystem for people, animals and plants.

**MATERIALS:** Book on Pollution/Recycling

**ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF LESSON:** Large group instruction

**LESSON:** Discussion Questions: (5 Minutes)

What is trash?

Where does it come from?

How do we get rid of it? (trash truck, burn, recycle, compost)

What could happen if trash is burned? (pollution, a wildfire)

Read Story – Berenstain Bears Don't Pollute (Anymore) (10 Minutes)

Follow Up Discussion: (5 Minutes)

What did the Berenstain Bears do to stop polluting the land, air and Water?

What could we do to reduce pollution and trash?

**ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES:**

**Examine classroom trashcan.** Discuss what can be recycled to Cut down on the amount of trash to throw away.

Implement recycling bins for classroom trash and compare with non recycled trash. Plastics, paper can be reused; amount of 'trash' is reduced.

**Begin a school-wide recycling program.** Collect paper milk cartons to make building blocks for classroom activities. (cut tops off of 2 same-sized cartons. Turn one carton bottom over and slip it into the other carton. Can make varied sized blocks. Can cover with paper and decorate.

**Make recycled Kazoos out of cardboard tube**

1 cardboard tube for each student (toilet paper tube works well)

1 square of wax paper cut a few inches larger than the tube rim

1 thick rubber band

crayons, markers to decorate tube

scissors

contact paper may be wrapped around tube for durability

Decorate tube with crayons or markers. Wrap wax paper tightly around the end of the tube and secure with the rubber band.

Cut a small hole (about ¼" diameter) with the scissors near the

Wax paper end of the tube.

\*The Kazoos can be used to sing the Smokey Bear song!

Learning Not Burning  
Firewise Prevention Program 2006

Lesson Plan for Grades 4-8

**OBJECTIVE:** Students will understand that trash pollutes our land, air and water. By recycling trash, our environment will be cleaner thus creating a healthier ecosystem for people, animals and plants.

**MATERIALS:** Book on Pollution/Recycling

**ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF LESSON:** Large group instruction

**LESSON:** Discussion Questions: (15 Minutes)

- What is trash? List types: Styrofoam, foil, paper, cans, bottles etc.
- Where does it come from?
- How do we get rid of it? (trash truck, burn, recycle, compost)
- What are dangers of burn barrels? (pollution, wildfire)

Read Story – Berenstain Bears Don't Pollute (Anymore) (10 Minutes)

Follow Up Discussion: (5 Minutes)

- What did the Berenstain Bears do to stop polluting the land, air and Water?
- What could we do to reduce pollution and trash?

**ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES:**

**Examine classroom trashcan.** Discuss what can be recycled to Cut down on the amount of trash to throw away.

Implement recycling bins for classroom trash and compare with non recycled trash. Plastics, paper can be reused; amount of 'trash' is reduced.

**Begin a school-wide recycling program.** Collect paper to use in a class project. Collect plastic bottles or cans and take them to a local recycling center.

**Make signs or greeting cards from recycled paper**

Need:

- |                   |                                      |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Large mixing bowl | Newspaper                            |
| An eggbeater      | Water                                |
| Cup               | Screen about 8" square               |
| Big spoon         | Flat pan a little larger than screen |
| Starch            |                                      |

Tear a half-page of newspaper into very small pieces. Put the paper in a large mixing bowl full of water.

Let the paper soak for one or more hours (can let soak up to 24 hours).

Beat the paper with an eggbeater for 10 minutes. The paper should be soft and mushy. It is now called pulp.

Mix 2 Tablespoons of starch in 1 cup of water. Add this to the pulp. Stir well.

The starch makes the paper pulp strong.  
Pour the pulp into the flat pan.  
Slide the screen under the pulp. Carefully move the pan back and forth to form an even layer of pulp on top of the screen.  
With two hands, lift the screen straight up (horizontally) out of the water. Place it on one half of the remaining newspaper.  
Fold the other half of the newspaper over the screen and press down very hard. This will squeeze some of the water out of the pulp.  
Carefully peel back the newspaper to uncover the pulp. Let the pulp dry overnight.  
When the paper is dry, carefully peel it from the screen.  
Create cards, signs, pictures etc.

You can also use paper bags, gift-wrap, lint from the clothes dryer, pieces of thread, tissue paper or leaves for a different look.